

REMARKS

Claims 1-29 are pending in the application.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8-12, 14, 15 and 17-29 have been rejected.

Claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 13 and 16 were objected to as depending from rejected base claims.

Reconsideration of the Claims is respectfully requested.

1. Rejection under Section 102

Claims 1-2, 5, 8, 11-12, 14 and 17-29 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,042,891, to Oberman et al. ("Oberman").

Oberman was cited for "updating an input virtual channel linked list corresponding to the input virtual channel to include the data block . . ." (Office Action at p. 3). But the cluster link memory of Oberman, for example, does not recite updating an input virtual channel linked list corresponding to the input virtual channel to include the data block.

Oberman relates to a "method for selecting the lowest latency path may include receiving (at the switch's input port) data forming a packet that is to be routed to one or more different output ports." (Oberman 2:59-62).

Oberman recites that "[c]luster link memory 404 may be configured as a linked list memory to store incoming packets. Packet free queue 406 is configured to operate as a "free list" to specify which memory locations are available for storing newly received packets. In some embodiments, input block 400 may be configured to allocate storage within shared memory 440 using clusters." (Oberman 7:31-35).

Clusters, as recited by Oberman, are "used to reduce the number of bits required for tracking and managing packets. Advantageously, by dividing packets into clusters instead of cells, the overhead for each packet may potentially be reduced. For example, in one embodiment shared memory 440 may allocate memory in 128-byte clusters." (Oberman 7:42-46).

Figure 3 of Oberman “illustrates details of one embodiment of the cluster link memory [404], packet free queue, and packet descriptor from Fig. 1.”

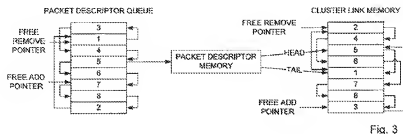


Fig. 3

(Oberman 6:16-18). “[P]acket free queue 406 comprises a linked list of pointers to free packet descriptors within packet descriptor memory 408. While different configurations are possible and contemplated, each packet descriptor may comprise a start or head pointer and an end or tail pointer to cluster link memory 404. Cluster link memory may comprise pointers to different memory locations within shared memory 440. . . .” (Oberman 10:46-55).

That is, Oberman does not recite updating an input virtual channel linked list corresponding to the input virtual channel to include the data block. Instead, Oberman recites the use of linked list of pointers to facilitate the manageability of a data packet.

In contrast to Oberman, Applicant’s Independent Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a “method for routing data within a host device comprising: receiving a data block at a receiver of the host device . . . updating an input virtual channel linked list corresponding to the input virtual channel to include the data block; determining an output virtual channel for the data block; transferring the data block from the input virtual channel linked list of the receiver buffer to a destination within the host device via the output virtual channel; and updating the input virtual channel linked list to remove the data block.” (emphasis added).

Applicant’s Independent Claim 11 recites, *inter alia*, a “method for routing data within a host device comprising: . . . when the input virtual channel has identified therewith an output virtual channel updating an output virtual channel linked list

corresponding to the output virtual channel to include the data block; and when the input virtual channel has not identified therewith an output virtual channel: updating an input virtual channel linked list corresponding to the input virtual channel to include the data block; processing the data block to determine an output virtual channel for the data block; updating an output virtual channel linked list corresponding to the output virtual channel to include the data block; and updating the input virtual channel linked list to remove the data block.” (emphasis added).

Applicant’s Claim 20 recites, *inter alia*, a “received *data processing and storage system* comprising: . . . a routing module that determines an output virtual channel for data blocks based upon their respective input virtual channels; a receiver buffer operable to instantiate an input virtual channel linked list for storing data blocks *on an input virtual channel basis* and to instantiate *a free list that identifies free data locations*; a linked list control module operably coupled to the receiver buffer; input virtual channel linked list registers operably coupled to the linked list control module; and *free linked list registers* operably coupled to the linked list control module.” (emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully submits that the cited reference of Oberman does not provide a basis for anticipation of Applicant’s claimed invention, because each and every element as set forth in the claims is not found in Oberman; moreover, the identical invention is not shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claims.

2. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication of allowability to Claims 3, 4, 7, 13 and 16, which would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

3. Conclusion

As a result of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-29 in the Application are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests allowance of such Claims.

If any issues arise, the Applicant respectfully invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below or at ksmith@texaspatents.com.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees connected with this communication or credit any overpayment to Garlick Harrison & Markison Deposit Account No. 50-2126.

Respectfully submitted,

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